

SEPTEMBER, 1945

The INTERNATIONAL TEAMSTER



Official Magazine
INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD
TEAMSTERS . . . CHAUFFEURS
WAREHOUSEMEN & HELPERS
OF AMERICA

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Preachers Blubber for Japs

BY LESTER M. HUNT

A BUNCH of blubbering Japs congregated before the imperial palace in Tokyo on the day of surrender to bow in shame over the outcome of the Pacific war.

A few Americans blubbered with them—notably the head of a midwestern university and a couple of eastern preachers.

The Japs were blubbering because they had been unable to kill enough Americans to win the war. The American professor and preachers blubbered because we had killed too many Japs.

The Japs lamented in the shame of defeat. The Americans lamented in the “shame” of victory. They said the use of the atomic bomb was “unnecessary” and “an act of moral degeneration.”

Evidently the professor and the preachers, sitting in the seclusion of their libraries, believe we should have pursued the war by conventional methods, no matter how heavy the cost in American life.

Apparently it made no difference to them how many American boys would have died on the beaches of Japan. They thought that was preferable to the use of the new weapon which leveled a couple of Jap cities and convinced the Japs that surrender was the only way to save themselves.

If it was a question of maudlin mercy that prompted the outbursts of the professor and the preachers, we might point out that the Japs who died in Hiroshima and Nagasaki under the atomic bombs died more painlessly than the Japs our troops would have bayoneted and mangled to death on the invasion beaches.

The important thing is that thousands of our own men would have died in agony on those beaches, too.

We saved their lives with the atomic bomb.

If these sentimental preachers and professor want to weep for somebody, why don't they shed a tear or say a prayer for the thousands of Americans tortured to death by the Japs?

They might remember that many of the innocent victims of Jap bestiality were missionaries; raped, enslaved and butchered by a depraved race of people.

The world is better because we killed so many of them.

It would have been still better if we had killed still more.

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INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF TEAMSTERS
CHAUFFEURS . . . WAREHOUSEMEN AND HELPERS

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No. 10

Radicalism is Sweeping World

Free Enterprise Can Survive Only 10 Years in U. S.

BY DANIEL J. TOBIN

Office of Publication
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IT WAS somewhat of a joke to those of us who know the situation to pick up the newspapers, especially the conservative, Republican, big business newspapers, and read in the editorial columns about the labor victory in the British elections.

I read one paper in Boston which said: "There is no need of the business interests of the United States being in the least disturbed over the British elections."

And it went on to say: "The leaders of the Labor Party are very conservative men, mild Socialists, who do not believe in any such doctrine as is practiced and prevails in other countries of the world, such as in Russia."

Well, let us analyze the platform on which the Labor Party won out. First, nationalization, or the taking over by the government of public utilities, and especially coal mining.

Railroads will be taken over by the government. Also electric light companies, and I think tramways, or street cars and busses.

But the platform on which they were elected goes further and says the Bank of England will be taken over by the government. Now the Bank of England is the oldest private banking institution in Europe, much older than any of our banks in New

York. At one time the Bank of England defied the government and refused to make loans that the government had endorsed, especially around the time of the purchase of the Suez Canal.

What would our business people in this country think if all the big, powerful national banks in the United States were taken over by the government? There is no individual or institution as blind as the individual or institution that refuses to see the light.

Personally I do not favor radicalism, or doctrines that would destroy honest and legitimate trade and enterprise. But you can rest assured that the victory in England for the Labor Party, which, by the way, was away beyond the anticipations of the leaders of the Labor Party—I repeat, you can rest assured it is the first important step towards the disestablishment eventually of private enterprise in all large interests and industries.

What are we going to face in this country?

Are we going to be the only large country in the world with powerful invested interests that will permit private enterprise to exist?

France has gone thoroughly Communist, as it now appears.

Germany will never be a power again in the industrial world, or if it is, you can rest assured that private enterprise will not have much to say in the affairs of Germany.

Poland, Czechoslovakia and Italy all have gone farther and farther towards the doctrines of extreme-ism. And remember this: that there are large investments of American capital, of big business, in nearly all the countries of Europe.

What about China?

It has been claimed—and has not been satisfactorily disproved—that in a referendum vote of the so-called Free China they would favor the disestablishment of free enterprise.

In other words—let us be plain with each other—China, especially northern China, is leaning strongly towards Communism.

Spain is not a great, important nation, and is almost bankrupt, and no one knows what is going to be the ending in Spanish affairs. This we do know: that Franco and his form of government are ready for the junk pile.

Where do we stand, then, as the one great, outstanding financial and business nation of the world?

I will tell you where we stand. We are going to stand alone for the principles of free enterprise. And how long can we stand alone? Perhaps five or ten years!

The pity of it is that big business and the big, powerful newspapers are goading and ready to fight against labor whenever labor raises its head in behalf of justice for the masses of the people.

And on the heels of the two institutions in our country, big business and the newspaper industry, we have our political leaders, many of them, trailing along, ready to get up in the Congress and advocate the adoption of unfair labor laws to further chain the hands and feet of the toilers.

I repeat, they are blind to their own interests, because the greatest friends of honest business and of free government that there are now in our country, or that there ever have been in our country, are the masses of the working people who follow the trade unions and the doctrines of justice and freedom now practiced and advocated by trade unions.

And the unorganized workers and the small farmers and small business men of the nation follow the leadership of labor.

What happened in England? Six million organized workers in England educated for years the small business interests, the small farmers, the so-called middle classes, and led by the trade union leaders, they went to the polls and repudiated so overwhelmingly the British aristocrats that the results were similar to an earthquake.

I know former Prime Minister Churchill

personally, and in my analysis of him, although he comes from the so-called upper class, he was a Democrat at heart and he did everything within his power to be helpful to the masses of the working people of England. But his efforts were blocked by the leaders of his Conservative Party.

Churchill saved England from destruction by the German conquerors in the darkest hour that England had ever seen. The British people were not fighting Churchill. They were fighting the system of government and the interests he represented.

We are not opposed to honest business or to honest political leaders, but we are opposed to leaders in either political party who are going to be used by the enemies of labor. Any party that believes that in this

progressive, dangerous age they can continue to fight the masses of the people and take it all for themselves are just simply cutting their own throats.

They are going to destroy not only their class, but destroy their system in this country as they have done in France, in Russia, and are on the road to do in England unless they can be saved now by the Labor Party, which is beginning to travel down the road towards extreme-ism.

The handwriting is on the wall. Business, capital, political labor haters beware! The days are not far off when the masses in our country may say "You and your systems have failed. We are not going to be isolationists. We will join up with all the other nations, where the masses have taken over."

Sixty Million Jobs May Not Be Enough

The surrender of Japan automatically eliminates the jobs of millions of American workers, many of them permanently. The work force reached an unparalleled high of 53,000,000 during the last year of the war.

This work force will insist on their rights to a job. And the ten or twelve million service men and women—many of whom had never had a job prior to their induction—will also demand immediate employment following their discharge.

When this vast work potential is released in a highly competitive economy every trick in the book of exploitation will be brought into play to pit the returning soldier against the organized worker.

It was done in 1920. It will be done again and if the leadership of labor does not dem-

onstrate a capacity to cope with the problems involved in the rehabilitation of the returning veteran, then there will be chaos.

As labor cooperated with the government and management throughout the war emergency, so it should cooperate in the postwar period in seeking and perfecting solutions to the problems certain to arise in the immediate years ahead.

The war revealed the tremendous capacity of labor to cope with situations involving production and transportation; it also revealed labor's political potentialities. These are facilities which can be exercised for either good or ill, and much will depend upon the leadership of labor as to the uses to which these are put.

—*The Minnesota Union Advocate.*

There Are Worse Things than Regimentation

We are as much interested in preserving free enterprise and political democracy in America as anyone can possibly be. However, as we see it, if we don't devise a scheme by which a hungry man, seeking a job, may get a chance to work at decent wages, we may be compelled eventually to pay a truly

terrifying price, and we don't want that.

We are confident the change can be achieved without too much "regimentation"—a thing we dislike, too.

But there are some things worse than "regimentation."

—*The Zanesville (Ohio) Tribune.*

Strikes Will Hinder Reconversion

Public Welfare Demands Cooperation by Labor

BY THOMAS E. FLYNN

IT IS LEGAL to strike again. It is also legal to go barefooted. But in either case you may stub your toe.

The conditions confront us today of which I spoke to the Southern Conference of Teamsters in Memphis in November, 1943.

We are entering the period of reconversion with our national economy in a very delicate condition. To withstand the shock of rapid change from the totalitarian economy of war to the individualistic economy of peace, we must use our heads.

An orgy of strikes will prevent an orderly change. It will cause one of two things, either one of them destructive to organized labor. They are:

1. It will throw the country into a tailspin and create a depression of unprecedented proportions.

2. It will force Congress to enact drastic laws with drastic penalties for strikes.

In either case we will go back into the period of rigid government control from which we are just emerging. We will be regimented in the event of serious depression. The government will be forced to take over industry.

And certainly we will be regimented if Congress enacts a code of labor laws which outlaws strikes and repeals the favorable legislation enacted during the administration of President Roosevelt.

If Congress regulates labor in this way, it must also regulate industry. So there we are again, right back in the lap of totalitarianism.

Many short-sighted employers believe they can regulate labor without also regulating industry. They will find to their dismay that they cannot do this.

Nevertheless, they are adopting provocative tactics in the hope of causing strikes

which they can use as an argument in favor of drastic labor regulation.

If we fall for this, we are just as short-sighted as they are.

I do not mean to say that we should outlaw the strike. But I most emphatically repeat what I told the Southern Conference of Teamsters almost two years ago—that no future strike can succeed which does not have public sympathy.

We will not have public sympathy if we walk around with a chip on our shoulder tying up industry every time some business agent has a bellyache.

We must also realize that five million war veterans will be returning to civil life within the next few months. These men will want to work at good wages to make up for the time they lost in service.

We have preserved their wages for them. Most of them will be grateful to us for that. But we will lose this gratitude if we won't let them work. And how can they work if industry is paralyzed by strikes?

That will arouse their hostility and we will have created the condition for which many heartless employers have hoped—the conflict between labor and veterans.

The function of a union is to provide men with work at good wages. It is not the function of a union to keep its members in hunger and idleness.

Unions which do that will cease to exist. Either they will be legislated out of existence or their members will quit in disgust and join other unions which will provide them with jobs.

The Teamsters' Union has kept abreast of changing conditions during the last 40 years. It has foreseen changes and has been prepared to meet them intelligently.

We have had bitter strikes in defense of

our fundamental rights. We may have them again. But a strike must be in defense of fundamental rights and the issue must be great enough to compensate for the penalty a worker pays in every strike, even if he wins.

A union which leads its members out on strike for a trivial question is false to its trust. It is false to the entire labor movement and is inviting trouble for the rest of labor.

The period of reconversion calls for clear heads and strong characters in labor leadership. We must help the nation through the crisis of peace, just as we helped it through the crisis of war.

If our economy collapses, we suffer just as much or more than anybody else. There are intelligent men in industry and government who realize this just as well as we do. We must work with them for our mutual protection.

At present government is lifting its wartime controls.

It is putting us on our own. Only if we fail will government step in and take over.

I realize more fully than most of our members how many employers have taken advantage of our no-strike pledge during the war. Day after day for almost four years your International officials struggled to keep our members at work in the face of almost intolerable conditions, deliberately created by unpatriotic employers to force us to strike so that they could accuse us of violating our pledge.

We appreciate the help we received from patriotic members of our unions who accepted injustice in order to keep the supplies rolling to the battle fronts where more than 100,000 Teamsters struggled and suffered.

I ask their continued help in the problem of rewarding those valiant fighting Teamsters with jobs and steady employment when they come home from the war.

I know the employers who disregarded their obligation to the nation in an hour of peril. So do you. The day of atonement may come. But it has not yet arrived.

We cannot engage in grudge fights now because if we do, the innocent bystanders—the American public—will suffer more than the employers, even if we win. And there is no certainty that we would win. A man who fights often enough always gets licked in the end.

I therefore urge the hard-working members of this union to keep their hands on the wheel. Steer cautiously over the treacherous roads that lie ahead of us.

As the largest and most influential union in the country, millions of people are looking to us to supply the answers to the questions that are confusing them.

If we supply those answers we will win for ourselves an unassailable position of permanent leadership in determining the policies of this nation.

And we will win the public confidence, without which we cannot succeed.

The light is green. Keep rolling.

Earnings, Employment Decreased Before V-J Day

Production and related workers in the 25 manufacturing industries surveyed each month by the National Industrial Conference Board received slightly less per hour for fewer hours' work per week in May. Employment, man hours and payrolls also declined. Another drop in "real" weekly earnings occurred, owing to lower weekly earnings combined with higher living costs.

Production workers were granted wage-rate increases which averaged 0.15 for all workers, an amount not great enough to have a noticeable effect on hourly earnings.

"Real" weekly earnings are dollar earnings adjusted for changes in living costs and indicate the workers' actual purchasing power. Hourly earnings and employment both decreased during May.

Atomic Bomb Opens New Era

World Collaboration is Now a Necessity

BY LESTER M. HUNT

HISTORY'S costliest and ghastliest war has ended. We won it. We are at peace again. But it is not a peace such as followed any other conflict.

It is a peace in which every problem of the war remains with us together with additional problems of which we never dreamed a few weeks ago.

We are standing on the threshold of a new era. The atomic bombs which blasted Hiroshima and Nagasaki also blasted away the curtain of mystery which has hidden the secrets of the universe.

In the atomic bomb we discovered those secrets. We tapped the source of the power that keeps the sun burning and the earth revolving around it through space.

The atomic bomb is probably the most important discovery since ancient man learned the secret of fire. It will revolutionize peace as it revolutionized war.

Hiroshima and Nagasaki can become way stations on the road to oblivion. Or they can become beacons toward a new world of advancement in which all men can enjoy the achievements of science.

It all depends on how we use the power we have discovered. The immediate predictions of science for the peacetime usages of atomic power are enough to stagger the mind.

They forecast the elimination of the coal and petroleum industries. Atomic power makes them obsolete.

That means millions of men in those industries will lose their livelihood. Probably many other industries regarded as basic will be made obsolete also as scientists perfect the utilization of atomic power.

Certainly the transportation industry will be revolutionized.

No one can foretell with certainty where

the development of atomic power will end. But we can foretell that it means an economic upheaval that will probably affect every man and woman in this country, if not the entire world.

It is useless to talk of putting this tremendous energy back into the atoms where it was locked since the beginning of time. Too many people know about it. Already the scientists of every nation are in keen competition to use this power in new ways. The genie is out of the bottle. Nobody will ever put it back.

From now on our economists must keep abreast of our scientists. It is up to the economists to cushion the shock of each new development so that most of the people of the world do not become unemployed.

The economists must be as far-sighted and as intelligent as the scientists. They must anticipate new discoveries and the effect those discoveries are likely to have on the social system.

What work remains to be done after atomic energy has been harnessed must be spread among those who are available to do it, regardless of whether this means a thirty-hour week or a ten-hour week.

Will the old American system of free enterprise do this? Will our industrialists and business men be capable of adjusting themselves to swiftly changing conditions? Will they show economic leadership?

Or will they welcome mass unemployment as a means of reducing wages? For their information, another period of mass unemployment will mean the end of American free enterprise. Millions of Americans are not going to stand around on a dole while a few big shots gather the profits of scientific advancement for themselves.

We'll all want a piece of that pie—a large piece.

If the industrialists want to preserve the system of free enterprise, they must cooperate with the economists in making the benefits of new inventions and new methods of production available to the masses of the people.

Otherwise the masses will swing irresistibly to some new economic system in which the state takes everything and divides it up among everybody.

Henceforth the benefits of science must be divided by somebody. If industry won't do it, the government will.

While atomic power will revolutionize world economics, it will also revolutionize international relations. A world organization is no longer desirable—it is necessary.

A combination of powers must supervise the development of atomic energy, making the discoveries of all scientists available to every nation.

For the protection of humanity, a world organization must see that atomic power is not turned into new weapons of war by Germany, Japan or any other nation.

So rapidly does the science of war develop that the bomb which fell on Nagasaki made obsolete the one which fell on Hiroshima a few hours earlier. The Hiroshima bomb turned its target to dust. The Nagasaki bomb turned it to vapor.

Within a short time such bombs can be fired by rocket, making it possible for one nation to wipe out another almost instantly and with no warning whatever.

Such weapons cannot be permitted to be developed, even if it means the prohibition of all laboratory work and research in Germany and Japan.

Germany was within a few months of perfecting the atomic bomb when she was defeated. That may have been what Hitler had in mind when he threatened to destroy European civilization. No man must ever have the power to destroy civilization. It is up to civilization to prevent this.

And it is up to civilization to see that mankind is not impoverished by the discoveries which can bring him a higher standard of living and a happier life than he ever envisioned before.

We're going forward from Nagasaki!

Sailor Wants to Buy War Surplus Property

The importance of preventing surplus war property from being gobbled up by big corporations at a fraction of its value was demonstrated by a letter from Joseph E. Glynn, a sailor in the Pacific and a member of Local No. 27, Plumbers' and Steamfitters' Union of Pittsburgh.

Glynn commended THE INTERNATIONAL TEAMSTER for asking all Teamsters to be on the alert for evidence of graft in the disposal of surplus supplies, as requested by Robert T. Amis, director, Compliance Division, Surplus Property Board, Washington 25, D. C.

The article appeared in the August issue. It was reprinted by Maurice Early, columnist for the *Indianapolis Star*. An Indianapolis resident sent it to a relative aboard

Glynn's ship, who showed it to Glynn.

Glynn then wrote us, indicating that upon his discharge he intends to go into business for himself and may want to buy copper pipe and plumbing material from the government. He thanked the Teamsters for taking steps to see that war veterans like himself have a chance to buy some of the surplus government property.

Because the Teamsters will haul much of the surplus property from storage to purchasers, Amis believes they are in a position to detect evidence of fraud in its disposal.

Any Teamster noting any suspicious circumstances should write Amis at the address given above. It will help thousands of men in service to get started again in civil life if this property is fairly disposed of.

Tell Congress to Kill BBH Bill

BY DANIEL J. TOBIN

THERE is more unfair, cruel, anti-labor legislation now being considered by Congress than we have had in 50 years at any one time.

The Ball-Burton-Hatch Bill, cleverly written by a man who was given his start by the railroad brotherhoods, Donald Richberg, but who is now the representative of big business, a big corporation lawyer in Washington, would destroy every act in favor of labor that has been passed after years of struggle during the last 50 years.

A group of business men and clever lawyers were called together. Who paid their expenses nobody knows, but there are strong suspicions that a lot of the money that gave life to this bill that would shackle labor came from the pockets of the wealthy.

It has been called to the attention of the executive council of the AFL that one of the large contributors was a Mr. Fels. Well, perhaps he got his money out of Fels-Naphtha soap. We don't know. There are others who hate labor who, we understand, have helped and who are willing and anxious to finance any cost necessary to the passage of the "chain bill" to chain and shackle labor.

Someone made a statement before the executive council that he had information that almost one million dollars for publicity was at the disposal of those having charge of seeing that this bill is passed. If they pass this bill it would be the worst thing that ever happened in this country—not to labor alone, but also to capital—because it would arouse labor so much that perhaps labor might follow in the footsteps of the masses of the workers in other countries and take over—not tomorrow or next year,

but perhaps in 10 or 20 years from now.

All we can say to the men leading the political machinery in Washington is: "Get wise to yourselves before it is too late." That statement is not a threat. It is advice to the leaders of our nation, in business and in politics, to try to save them from themselves.

We want to call to the attention of our members when they read this journal, on or about Labor Day, the day created to honor the working men and women of the nation, to contact your senators and congressmen and tell them you are demanding that they must kill this bill or you will kill their political future.

Tell them in no unmistakable language that you helped to elect them and that the American labor movement as a whole is opposed to the Ball-Burton-Hatch Bill and you expect them, by their actions, their expressions and their votes to defeat this bill.

And when they return to Washington, don't forget to remind them of your position. Remember that the freedom of your unions—and that means the freedom of your family—is at stake. Every big business interest in the nation is behind this bill. Every big newspaper is advocating its passage. Impress upon those men down there, who are the servants of the people, that their action in this and other labor legislation will be the measuring rod by which they will be analyzed when they or their party come up for election again. Sometimes your friends can double-cross you also, unless you keep both eyes on them. Labor put the present party in power. They can take it out of power.

Propagandists and politicians may fool overseas service men during the war, but when they return these men will readily see that organized labor in their fight for decent wages, are the real supporters of the war veteran.

—Northwest Teamster.

Victory is Epitaph for Roosevelt

He Gave Us Atomic Bomb and Russian Invasion

IN THE May issue of this publication we carried a picture of President Roosevelt under the caption—"He Saved the World." We regarded that as an honest epitaph for the greatest leader any recent generation has produced.

In the light of developments since the President's tragic death, we are convinced that the words we wrote in an hour of grief stand as an unchallenged appraisal of his life work.

We believe they will be echoed by historians in cold analysis, unmoved by the hysterical accusations of his enemies.

Some people may say that the war was won by the paralyzing devastation of the atomic bomb. Or by the savage charge of the Russian legions into Manchuria.

They are right. But who gave us the atomic bomb? And the Russian attack?

It is now revealed that the atomic bomb was produced by a committee of scientists appointed by President Roosevelt for the express purpose of perfecting, if possible, this terrible weapon before our enemies devised something as effective.

And it is also revealed that Roosevelt decided in favor of the Normandy invasion—and thereby assured the Russian attack on Japan—at a time when his critics were deploring such an invasion for fear our troops would be thrown back into the sea.

But Russia needed a second front to divert the terrific power the Germans were hurling at her.

Roosevelt believed that this invasion, aside from relieving a valiant ally, would throw the Germans off balance and hasten the end of the war.

Stalin wanted the invasion. Churchill opposed it. Roosevelt cast the deciding vote in favor of the invasion, which now stands

as one of the most brilliant actions of military history.

It shortened the war, as Roosevelt thought it would. And he stood fast in the face of treacherous objections by isolationist congressmen and senators who tried to arouse popular prejudice against the invasion by claiming that American troops would constitute an unfair preponderance of the expedition.

Even at a crucial period of the war they played politics with the lives of Americans and tried to arouse resentment against the Russians and the British.

Some people may point to the magnificent resistance of England during the air blitz as the turning point of the war. Maybe it was. But who supported England in that hour with American arms and equipment? Roosevelt did. And he did so while his enemies were shouting that he was "involving us in war."

Roosevelt knew that if England fell, the full fury of the German war machine would be turned on us. He saw that England didn't fall.

To those who say that the war was won for us when Hitler attacked Russia, let us remind them that Russia was given heart and weapons by this same far-sighted President of ours.

And when Japan attacked us, and Germany declared war, the isolationists broke into a frenzied chant to concentrate our force against Japan and let Germany alone. Again Roosevelt decided wisely.

We fought a two-front war and we threw our major resources against Germany because Germany was the greatest menace. Again developments proved he was right.

If we had concentrated on Japan, Germany would have won in Europe and then

we would have been in a two-front war without allies.

At the time of Germany's collapse it was discovered that she had almost perfected rocket bombs that would have virtually blown England into the ocean. Germany was on the verge of turning out new submarines that would have paved the ocean bottom with our transports.

She was close to perfection of the atomic bomb and was working on new death rays. All she needed was time. She would have had that time if Roosevelt had listened to the isolationists and sent no troops and armaments to Europe.

Some may say it was the genius of Eisenhower, Nimitz, Halsey, MacArthur and other brilliant commanders. But who selected those brilliant commanders and put them in charge? Roosevelt, again.

From the moment the first clouds of war darkened the skies, Roosevelt took action. He rebuilt the navy the isolationists had scuttled. He got through the first peacetime draft in American history when he saw that the war would hit us unprepared unless we began to mobilize.

And when war did hit us we had laid the foundation of our power. We merely stepped up our program. Again we had saved the precious time that Germany needed.

President Truman recognized this at the height of the enthusiasm over victory, when he was complimented for his great success.

Truman pointed to a picture of Roosevelt. "There is the man to congratulate," he remarked.

No President ever took such an active role in directing a war as Roosevelt did. He was a master of his subject. He participated in making the grand strategy of the war. He made the final decisions on which hung the lives of our troops and the survival of our country.

He brought England and Russia into close collaboration with us and with each other so that the war was fought as one huge operation by allied armies, instead of several independent wars by separate nations.

Many factors went to make up victory, including the valor of American troops and the production of American labor and industry. But it was Roosevelt who welded them into a victorious fighting team.

At every crucial point in a war that would have enslaved the world and perhaps destroyed it entirely—had Germany perfected the atomic bomb first—it was the courage, the character, the vision, the inspiration of Roosevelt that influenced the course of destiny.

He was right—again and again and again!

Congressman Would Liberalize Fair Labor Act

A bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 introduced in Congress by Ellis E. Patterson of California has been referred to the committee on labor.

This bill, H. R. 3719, proposes the following amendments to the Fair Labor Standards Act:

1. Would use the National Labor Relations Board definition of commerce, which has been interpreted by the courts as having the broadest scope of any commerce definition.

2. Would establish a 75 cents per hour minimum wage.

3. A work week of 35 hours with time

and one-half for all work performed in excess of 35 hours.

4. Coverage of the act extended to cover all workers engaged in commerce who are now specifically excluded.

5. Would establish a five-year statute of limitations.

Obviously the bill contains a number of necessary and important improvements that would be of great benefit to labor. It is earnestly hoped that this bill will receive the general support of all the friends of labor, as it so well deserves.—*Weekly News Letter, California State Federation of Labor.*

Chicago Independents Belong in IBT

Division Among Truck Drivers is Injurious

BY DANIEL J. TOBIN

THE one independent truck drivers' union in Chicago which went out on strike in defiance of governmental orders, and which forced the government to come in and operate the trucks, is back at work and the government forces are now being withdrawn.

It is a pity that they are divided and are separated from the great rank and file of the organized Teamsters in Chicago, numbering 54,628 members. They stand alone, like a lone post in the middle of a great desert; a desert of hatefulness against labor.

They gained nothing by going out on strike and they had to come back under government orders, which they did; and they will gain nothing in the future standing alone.

They are incorporated under the laws of the State of Delaware, so we are informed. Why that happened is more than we can understand, because incorporation of trade unions has been distinctly opposed by the leaders in the American labor movement, because it is dangerous.

Those people can affiliate with this International Union, where they should be, and receive all the benefits of the International Union, which are innumerable, on the payment of one cent a day per capita tax. The dues of the local union are regulated by the local union itself, subject, of course, to supervision by the International Union if they become what might be called unreasonable.

The dues in Local No. 705, International Brotherhood of Teamsters, are a little higher than the dues in Local No. 705, Independent, Incorporated Teamsters. The reason for this is that Local No. 705 (IBT) has substantial benefits for the individual member, such as medical care and other protec-

tions that are not provided by the independent union.

In other words, Local No. 705 (IBT) gives extra, substantial benefits for the extra dues it receives. If the International Union finds there is anything in the local bylaws or in their fees that is in any way unfair, the matter shall and will be taken care of properly, as is done in all other unions.

But we realize fully in the International office that the benefits obtained by the membership of our Local No. 705—for which they themselves settled and established their own dues per month—are quite reasonable.

We worked as closely as we could with the independent union in Chicago because, after all, its members are union men, even though they are outside of a bona fide organization.

For their own benefit—that is, the general membership in this independent union—they should at once become part of the regular, bona fide Truck Drivers' Union of Chicago, with its great membership and its great influence locally, throughout the state, and nationally with the federal government.

They are going to have more trouble as time goes on, when idleness prevails, and attempts are made to reduce wages. They will need the help of everybody more than they do now; and it will not be easy to overcome the enemies of the Teamsters or to battle with the employers; and 30 cents a month per capita tax is a very small amount to pay for such far-reaching protection as is given by the Joint Council of Chicago and the International Brotherhood of Teamsters.

The employers also should take notice that where there is no discipline in a trade union and no head authority, it is bound to get into trouble. Where there are no Inter-

national leaders to advise and direct, and sometimes compel, local unions to respect the rights of the employers and to carry out their agreements, there is apt to be irresponsible action.

Bear this in mind, you employers who think you are now over your troubles—you are in for more trouble than you can see, because now that the war is over and the troops returning and the “no strike” pledge being dispensed with after a certain length of time, union men may remember that in many instances injustices obtained because

of the “no strike” pledge, and they may now take action which perhaps might be injurious to both.

The ban will be off pretty soon and the industrial battle lines will open up, and each side needs the cooperation and assistance of the other. Working men need the guidance and advice of men who have been tried and proven to be honest and intelligent. If winning the battle in Europe and Asia means an industrial battle in our country—which I hope it does not—then we haven’t been quite successful in the conflict.

Our War Objective Was to Defeat Our Attackers

Charles A. Lindbergh is quoted in the *Chicago Tribune* as saying that “we have not so far accomplished the objectives for which we went to war. We have not established peace or liberty in Europe.”

This is a surprising statement, even from a man who has been wrong as often as Lindbergh.

Lindbergh must know that we did not go to war to establish peace or liberty in Europe. He must know that because he spent most of his time prior to December 7, 1941 making certain by falsehood and propaganda that we would not go to war for any such noble objectives.

In that he had the help of the *Chicago*

Tribune and countless other isolationists, as well as seditionists.

We went to war only because we were attacked. Japan opened hostilities at Pearl Harbor, and then Germany and Italy declared war on us. We had to fight to save our skin. Our war aim was to lick those who had attacked us.

We had only three war objectives. These were:

- 1—To beat Japan.
- 2—To beat Germany.
- 3—To beat Italy.

We have accomplished our objectives.

—*The International Laundry Worker.*

Congress Dodged Duty and Took Vacation

Congress went home in the face of repeated indications that a liberalized unemployment system was imperatively needed to aid in preventing hardship and to maintain purchasing power in the reconversion period.

It can hardly complain if its prolonged vacation meets with criticism, in view of the necessity for legislation on unemployment benefits and other vital domestic matters.

The vacation, however, gives labor and other progressive forces an excellent opportunity to tell representatives and senators of the need for liberalization and broadening of the coverage of the unemployment benefit system.

Labor must take full advantage of this opportunity, so that Congress will be impressed with the demand for speedy action when it goes back to Washington.

—*Miami Citizen.*

Our immigration laws should be amended to prevent an influx of ex-Nazis into the United States in the years to follow. We do not need any of the followers of Hitler in this country.—*The Dolores (Colo.) Star.*

AFL Helped Develop Atomic Bomb

Army Pays Tribute to Skilled Men in Secret Work

The following article was issued by the War Department in appreciation to the American Federation of Labor and its unions for their help in providing skilled labor at a time when speed was essential to the progress of the secret work that brought the Japs bleating to their knees under the most devastating weapon ever devised by man. An appeal by the army was made to the AFL convention in New Orleans last year that resulted in workers being rushed to the vital jobs at union expense.

ONCE the magnitude of the atomic bomb project had been established, manpower immediately was recognized as one of the key ingredients which would spell the difference between success or failure. The army was faced with its two largest construction jobs, the largest in modern times and possibly the largest in history. In addition to the usual obstacles, a stepped-up schedule had to be met, time being of the essence in a grim race against the unknown schedule of the Germans.

The project, which is operated by the army under the "cover" name of the Manhattan Engineer District of the Corps of Engineers, had an unusual obstacle to face. Security was paramount.

At this time, national competition for manpower was acute. Industries and war projects were vying with each other in this competition, citing the key part their people were playing in the war effort. No such inducement could be made to attract labor to the atomic bomb project. Nothing whatsoever could be told in recruitment beyond the fact that the work would be in the top interests of the war endeavor.

At first, the general attitude was that the project's construction was just another job—or that "business as usual" was the order of the day. Trade unions, the War Manpower Commission, plus the Manhattan district's expeditors teamed to achieve what at times seemed impossible, provision of adequate manpower. Heading this program was Col. Clarence D. Barker, chief of

the labor division of the Office of the Chief of Engineers.

By the time the Manhattan district began its large scale recruiting activities, the War Manpower Commission and its agencies were well established and labor recruiting was carried on primarily through their services. The U. S. Employment Service utilized the American Federation of Labor to recruit and move skilled tradesmen. The common laborers' union, however, did not have sufficient membership to supply demands and these were recruited through the USES from the general labor market.

Types of personnel necessary to man the project covered practically all occupational skills. These ranged from common laborers, carpenters and plumbers to glass blowers, chemists and physicists. The mass of personnel, however, fell into two general classes: construction laborers and mechanics and plant operators.

Recruitment of special skills such as chemists, physicists, laboratory technicians and others presented many problems. As a whole, they were as difficult to find as the larger numbers of the more common skills. The most difficult problems in this phase were handled personally by Dr. Samuel Arnold, dean of men at Brown University, himself an eminent scientist.

Much of the supervisor and technical personnel were recruited by the many contractors of the Manhattan district within their own organizations. Many of the top scientists were brought to the project

through contracts placed with various universities.

The recruiting of operations people was particularly a difficult problem because of the necessity of training all new people for the work. It necessitated the stripping of the operating contractors of a great many of the key men of their organizations which in view of the increased activities brought on by the war programs other than that connected with the Manhattan district had made the situation more complex.

This was the overall personnel procurement program of the Manhattan Engineer District. But there were many problems which at times seemed to defy solution. Had it not been for the complete coordination of the whole problem, several situations could have progressed to disastrous proportions.

The construction, by reasons of its immensity and uniqueness and also because of a great many new practices developed which had never been used in the industry before, necessitated the support of the top labor leaders.

On several occasions it was necessary that Judge Robert Patterson, the under-secretary of war, call in the leaders, including the president of AFL, William Green, and the general presidents of several building trades unions to seek their cooperation and to give them a better understanding of the problems involved. Philip Murray, CIO chief, aided greatly.

They, in a great many instances, broke down conditions of long standing in order that the completion *on* schedule be not interfered with. Judge Patterson also gave a great deal of his personal time to this phase when it was required.

By June 15, 1944, the shortage of electricians at the Hanford Engineer Works, Washington, and the Clinton Engineer Works, Tennessee, had become so acute that work schedules were seriously endangered.

Twenty-five hundred electricians had to be recruited. A plan was worked out by the under-secretary of war and Edward J.

Brown, president of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. Electricians would be borrowed from other employers for a period of 90 days.

The National Electrical Contractors Association was called in and a carefully worded news release, for security reasons, was issued by the War Department stating the project's predicament. In two months' time, the bottleneck was completely and satisfactorily broken. The plan was continued throughout construction.

An acute shortage of machinists and tool-makers late in 1943 resulted in stringent measures. The New Mexico installation urgently needed 190 men in these skills. The War Manpower Commission issued instructions to its regional directors on October 21, 1943 authorizing them to certify certain workers as available to the Manhattan district even over the protests of their employers, many of whom were in other essential war programs. With this authority as a basis, special recruiting teams composed of an army officer, a recruiter, and a security agent procured the workers needed in one month.

The Manhattan district experienced more unusual problems of turnover and absenteeism than other war industries and installations. This was directly due to the isolation of the projects, the extended length of the construction period, expansions in the construction program, security, and limited housing and crowded transportation facilities.

A rigorous campaign was set up to solve these problems. Exit interviews salvaged many. In hundreds of cases, competent employees were either persuaded to go back to work or to take other jobs on the same project. Employees made available by reduction in force were also picked up in this manner and directed to other jobs on the project or in some cases returned to essential industry. These interviews also determined why workers were leaving and set up a basis for corrective action.

A companion problem to turnover was

absenteeism. Repeated absenteeism was the greatest single cause for terminations. War economy with its larger incomes resulting from higher wages and longer hours provided less compulsion for steady work than the lower incomes of peace time. Therefore, every effort was made, within the limits of the isolated areas where the projects were established, to better living and working conditions.

It was soon found that job dissatisfaction as a whole hinged on lack of facilities present in normal American communities. To the seasoned construction worker, conditions were average. To the men having their first fling at construction and to the men and women who took production jobs, life was markedly different.

The army attempted to make conditions more normal by providing recreation facilities such as movie houses, baseball diamonds, tennis courts and recreation halls. These facilities greatly assisted in keeping workers on the job.

The army also provided subsidized transportation, nursery schools to release working mothers, tire and gasoline rationing boards and conveniently located shopping facilities.

The following unions were those most closely associated with the construction phases of the project:

International Association of Heat and Frost Insulators and Asbestos Workers

International Brotherhood of Boiler Makers, Iron Ship Builders and Helpers
Bricklayers, Masons and Plasterers' International Union

United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

International Union of Elevator Constructors

International Union of Operating Engineers

International Association of Bridge, Structural and Ornamental Iron Workers

International Hod Carriers, Building and Common Laborers' Union

Wood, Wire and Metal Lathers' International Union

Brotherhood of Painters, Decorators and Paperhangers

Operative Plasterers and Cement Finishers' International Association

United Slate, Tile and Composition Roofers, Damp and Waterproof Workers' Association

United Association of Journeymen Plumbers and Steam Fitters

Sheet Metal Workers' International Association

International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Warehousemen and Helpers

Building Trade Department of AFL

International Brotherhood of Firemen and Oilers

Free Enterprise System is on Trial in America

Millions of jobs will be needed in order for every able-bodied American who wants a job to have one.

We know that if the energies of our country and its resources made possible the production of billions of dollars' worth of commodities for the purpose of destruction, we certainly should be able to use all our entire constructive forces for the purpose of permitting us to enjoy to the greatest limit the

products we are able to produce in peacetime.

The so-called free enterprise theory is on trial. Unless our industry can be so organized as to permit willing workers an opportunity to work and produce, it will have to give way to government interference and government control and ownership of industry that will permit internal peace and plenty.—*Washington State Labor News.*

N. Y. Newspaper Strike Useless

Tobin Refuses to Intercede at Request of Publishers

AS FAR as we can learn, the strike of the newspaper drivers in New York gained nothing for the men on strike that they could not have obtained by negotiation with the War Labor Board, where the case had to go eventually for final settlement.

President Tobin had been solicited to come to New York by some newspaper publishers. He refused to enter into any kind of negotiations or conversations with any publisher in New York during the time the men were on strike.

The publishers, then and for years past, were dealing with an independent local union of newspaper drivers. The International Union will not be used as a strike-breaking agency for any institution.

We regret that the newspaper drivers of New York were not in the International Union, where they should be, with the 50,000 other union Teamsters in New York, and with the 600,000 members of this organization throughout the nation.

Division amongst the workers of the nation, and especially the Teamsters, is not helpful. We do not think that their remaining an independent outfit is due to the fact that we have 30 cents a month per capita tax in the International Union, because every member and every local union receives for that 30 cents benefits and protection which would perhaps be worth 50 cents to one dollar a month to each member. There must be other reasons for them being outside. As far as we are concerned, that suits us. They are the losers.

The International Union protects unions in legal affairs that involve the International Union. The International Union has established and maintains one of the best statistical departments, with high class, trained technicians, graduates of the best colleges in the country, and investigators equal to any in the labor movement. And we charge

our local unions nothing for this service.

This service has been responsible for the prevention of strikes and for enormous increases in wages since it was established three or four years ago. One of our statisticians, Dave Kaplan, a graduate of the University of Wisconsin, spends almost his entire time in New York to help our local unions there. What a great help it would be to the newspaper drivers in their negotiations to have the benefit of this service.

In addition to this, we have national legal advisers and helpers, and we advise and help local unions through this legal department whenever the question becomes a matter that would deal with the International.

In addition to this, we have a legislative department that protects us as much as possible in dealing with legislative matters in Washington and our International Union is as well known on Capitol Hill and has as much influence as any labor organization in America.

All this is done for our local unions for the payment of one cent a day per capita tax per member and part of that one cent a day is given to the American Federation of Labor and its departments.

So we believe that it is not a question of a few cents per month per member to the International Union that is keeping out the newspaper drivers of New York from the International Union and its enormous membership and great influence. Neither is it a question of the jurisdiction of the local union, because we are now ready to say that we believe we can reach an understanding with the Mailers' Union protecting the present membership of the newspaper drivers of New York.

We hope that some day they will be in, but in or out, the International Union will not interfere with their affairs when they are on strike or in trouble.

Power Trust Lobby Fights MVA

From the Colorado Labor Advocate

AMERICANS who believe in a United States instead of states' rights and the totalitarianism of big business have a new enemy settled in Washington—the National Association of Electric Companies, mouthpiece of the power trust opposed to the establishment of the Missouri Valley Authority.

Representing 13,000,000 distributing meters, or about half of the nation's electric utilities, this new lobby states its policies are "to further cooperation between governmental departments and agencies dealing with them; to present the facts concerning public benefits resulting from the operation of taxpaying electric utility companies by business men under governmental regulation as distinguished from government ownership and operation."

Not until labor and liberals began to speak up for regional project development through the MVA did the power trust break its 12-year silence that began with the collapse of the National Electric Light Association.

The activities of NELA, exposed by a Federal Trade Commission investigation in 1928, aroused such strong public criticism that the association was forced to disband in 1933. This was the group that subsidized teachers in tax-supported schools and provided texts on utility operations.

During the "mad twenties," the pyramiding of operating companies' control into vast utility holding companies produced such financial jig-saws as the Insull empire. The regulatory Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 was a direct outgrowth of the exposures made of this and similar power trust setups which milked the public through unconscionable rates and get-rich-quick in-

vestment frauds. The Tennessee Valley Authority, which has brought new life and hope to the once forgotten people of that region, and the Rural Electrification Administration, which has brought twentieth century living to thousands of farm families, are two more public gains resulting from the power trust exposés.

Seeing its grasp threatened anew in the Missouri valley region, the power trust is going to "present the facts concerning public benefits resulting from the operation of taxpaying electric utility companies." It is interesting to note that the president of the new NAEC is Purcell L. Smith, who resigned as president of the Middle West Corp., top company of what remains of the Insull empire.

All three members of the organizing committee also have powerful connections within the industry. A. C. Spurr is president of the Monongahela West Penn Public Service Co., Fairmont, W. Va., a unit of the American Water Works & Electric Co. group; James M. Barry is vice-president and general manager of the Alabama Power Co., Birmingham, Ala., subsidiary of the Commonwealth & Southern Corp., and K. M. Robinson is president of the Washington Water Power Co., Spokane, Wash., subsidiary of American Power & Light Co.

From now on the daily press and radio will undoubtedly be running over with "facts concerning public benefits" handed out by the power trust. But those who recall how the power companies have abused the public trust will find it difficult to believe that this new super-lobby is acting in their behalf when it asks defeat of MVA legislation.

The men who have grown rich out of this war don't wear overalls.

—The Union Leader, Chicago.

AFL *Won't Work with Red Labor*

Executive Council Refuses to Change Its Position

BY DANIEL J. TOBIN

WE HAVE had some people trying to get the AFL executive council to reconsider its action and go along with the World Labor movement, of which you have not heard much recently. There are, however, certain individuals here and there advocating participation in this movement, which is nearly all European, led principally by the Russian representatives of government and labor.

The federation cannot change its position. It cannot become a part of an organization where the workers are not free to make their own conditions. Perhaps some time there may be a change in conditions in some of those countries over there, whereby the American Federation of Labor and its seven million members could find it possible to be helpful by affiliating.

But that time is not here now. The contention of the American Federation of Labor is that the Russian labor movement is a governmental institution, that wages and conditions are made by the government, that a farmer cannot own his own land, or a man making shoes cannot own his factory, that the price of labor and salaries for everyone are made by the government and you have to take it. That's their law. And it is apparently satisfactory to the majority of the Russian people.

No one has greater admiration than I for the work Russia has done in this war to defeat Germany and in helping us to overcome that bunch of Jap savages under the leadership of the God of the Rising Sun.

While I have the greatest admiration for Russia and what it has done in this great struggle, and for what it has suffered, without complaint, I think the United States has proven itself to Russia. We gave them

everything they desired or needed to carry on. We gave them the things we needed ourselves, such as tires.

We were very short of rubber tires here and some of our trucks were being laid up for the want of tires at one time. I had lunch one day with William M. Jeffers, a fine, strong character who is the head of a large railroad on the western coast. He was then in charge of rubber. He did a great job. And when my associates and I were advocating and trying to convince Mr. Jeffers about the necessity of more tires for our people, to keep the trucks rolling, he was in sympathy with us. He wanted to do everything for the Teamsters, but he couldn't do it.

He was given government orders and our government was endeavoring to go along with our allies. And in the course of our conversation it was brought out that we had put up one big factory and filled it with all the necessary machinery for the making of heavy synthetic tires.

He advised me that they had taken all the machinery out of that factory and sent it to Russia. I was amazed. I couldn't understand it, although I was quite sympathetic, and his explanation to me was:

"Well, we either had to send the rubber tires over there manufactured, or send over our machinery to let them manufacture the tires themselves, with our engineers and experts to guide and direct them.

"Russia had to have tires for her trucks and heavy equipment and for her innumerable airplanes, which we were also supplying."

When he painted that picture to me and said it had to be done—Russia was endeavoring to stop Germany, which then had

more than one-third of Russia under her control—I decided that undoubtedly our government did the right thing.

I mention this now to show you what we did for Russia, because we believed we should do it. But in ordinary times we hesitate to have the working people of our country go into a federation with those of another where the government, under its practice and program, is so very different from ours. It is hard for the American trade union movement, represented by the American Federation of Labor, to take on that kind of job.

We believe in freedom of the workers to negotiate their own working conditions. We do not believe in having a big stick held over us by our government telling us: "You cannot own that house, or that factory, or that shop. We own it and we will pay you whatever we like to run the shop or factory."

Maybe there are conditions that we do not understand in Russia. I have said repeatedly that if the Russian people want their kind of government—and I believe they do—they should have it. But if we want another kind of government, Russia has no right to interfere with our procedure.

I think there will be a better understanding now that this war is over, between Russia and the United States. I also think Russia may be disagreeable; may demand too much.

But if we cannot cement or unite the labor movement of America, how could we expect to unite all the labor movements of the world, whose countries and working conditions are entirely different from ours?

It is really difficult to understand how some of the labor men in our own country are working so hard to organize the World Labor movement, with its many nationalities and its many impossible, perplexing problems, and if you talk about them coming together in a meeting and making some slight sacrifices to bring the American toilers into one family, they duck away from you as though you had the smallpox.

You cannot prevent yourself from think-

ing sometimes that there isn't any real sincerity in their actions in this World Labor movement. Sometimes you are led to believe it is a case of desire for publicity—Let's get our names in the paper. They are willing to organize all the nations of the world but they are not willing to stop fighting, calling names and raiding other unions in the United States.

That is not sensible, practical or decent. Nor is it trade unionism. But that is what is going on in the United States today in the family of labor.

But let me say this: the adverse legislation to shackle labor, referred to in another part of this issue, has been attempted because of the division in labor. The master politicians and big business interests take advantage of the split in labor and they are encouraged to introduce crushing labor legislation.

Still several labor men want to continue the split in labor because they fear that it might interfere with their own prominence in their respective organizations. They know that in one great big family of labor they would not be continued in office, and they love the limelight.

Because of this we have newspaper writers openly, and big business, labor hating institutions secretly, endeavoring to cut our throats. Yes, maybe when labor is attacked strongly enough and shackled sufficiently, the great masses of the membership will demand action from the leaders who now do not even want to discuss coming together through elected leadership, speaking for all the men and women of organized labor in our country.

If we could send two men down there before the senatorial committee, speaking as the president and the secretary of the AMERICAN LABOR MOVEMENT, men of courage and without fear for themselves, and if they would say to those senators:

"There are twelve million organized workers in America who, with their wives and families, control twelve million more votes,

and we want to say to you gentlemen that if you pass this legislation we will see to it that through the piercing sword of the electorate your services will not be continued as lawmakers"—if we could only say that, they would be running after us before the next election came around to know what they could do by introducing measures in

behalf of labor, instead of now running around with the lobbyists of big business, saying to the enemies of labor: "Get your bill drafted by a set of corporation lawyers and we will introduce it in the Senate and the House."

That's what is happening today in Washington.

Reconversion Crisis Catches Country Unprepared

The crisis against which organized labor, far-sighted employers and public officials have been anxiously trying to prepare for, namely, the end of the war, has actually arrived. Yet with all this advance notice, with all the talk and furore raised, very little has actually been done to make such preparations.

The fault largely lies with the failure of Congress to pass laws that would prevent or help to cushion the shock of vast unemployment brought about by the sudden stoppage of war production.

Since Congress returned from its last Christmas recess, its deliberations almost exclusively have been given over to the con-

sideration of international issues such as the ratification of the San Francisco charter, adoption of the Bretton Woods monetary program, the extension of the Export-Import Bank and other similar important items.

While Congress has given preferential tax consideration to business to help it easily weather the shock of conversion, it virtually did nothing to pass the particular four bills that organized labor and liberal minded individuals and newspapers deemed essential to protect the workers during the cutbacks and inevitable layoffs as well as to stabilize job assurance in the postwar era.

—*St. Louis Labor Tribune.*

Now for Victory Over Poverty and Depression

Victory on the battlefield and victory at home are one and inseparable. Let us cast off the chains of economic bondage and be free to create a greater and better America for our heroes when they return.

Let us resolve with them never to allow apple selling on the corners, degraded poverty in a land of plenty, and the riches of

the nation to be controlled by the privileged few.

Let us end poverty and depression and continue a full program of complete employment for the masses of our nation, so that prosperity shall continue onwards.—*The Milk Distributor, Local No. 753, Chicago.*

Dayton Labor Paper Is Branded as Racket

Delegates to the annual convention of the Indiana State Federation of Labor held at Fort Wayne, Ind. last September will recall that *The Labor Union* of Dayton, Ohio was circulated at the convention and by order of the officers was gathered up and cast into the wastebasket, where it belonged.

We advised the membership then that it was a racket sheet and we further call your attention to the statements issued by William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, which have been carried in the union press in Indiana.—*Indiana State Federation of Labor Report.*

Seafarers Respect Jurisdiction

Accept AFL Decision Giving Canneries to Teamsters

AN AGREEMENT has been reached between the Seafarers' International Union and the executive council of the American Federation of Labor, with reference to the Seafarers' International Union carrying out the decisions of the executive council regarding the jurisdiction of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters.

These decisions grant to the International Brotherhood of Teamsters jurisdiction over fruit and vegetable canneries and warehouses. In a letter to President Green, Harry Lundeberg, president of the Seafarers' International Union of North America, makes the following statement:

"The Seafarers' International Union of North America has not and is not chartering any vegetable cannery unions on the Pacific Coast, and whatever charters have been issued by affiliates have been withdrawn at my direction.

"The Seafarers' International Union of North America, since its acceptance of the charter at the Houston convention, affiliating itself with the American Federation of Labor, has been loyal to that affiliation.

"We have fought the CIO, not only such CIO unions in our own field, but have given direct and substantial aid to any other AFL unions engaged in the struggle with the CIO.

"And we have fought the CIO, not

only since our affiliation to the AFL, but prior to such affiliation, and will continue to do so.

(Signed) HARRY LUNDEBERG,
President, International Seafarers'
Union of North America.

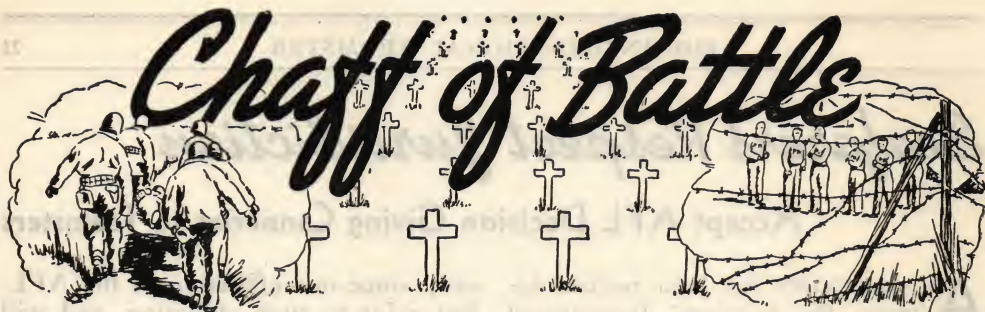
President Tobin had preferred charges against the Seafarers' International Union, which charges were to be heard by the executive council at its meeting in Chicago in August, on the grounds that the Seafarers' International Union was violating the direct order of the executive council insofar as the cannery workers were concerned.

On the presentation of this statement by President Lundeberg, President Tobin withdrew the charges, and it is expected that better understandings and agreements will now obtain on the western coast in dealing with the troublesome question of the CIO and other problems in that district.

In his letter to the executive council, President Lundeberg also stated that Kneeland C. Tanner, a lawyer practicing on the western coast, mostly in California, did not represent the Seafarers' International Union when, in representing some cannery workers in court in California, he made a vicious, untrue, venomous, unjust attack on the International Brotherhood of Teamsters and on President Tobin. The statement of President Lundeberg, in his letter to the executive council, with reference to Mr. Tanner, was accepted.

The AFL has a genuine sympathy for fallen labor abroad and strongly believes that labor anywhere has a moral obligation to help labor everywhere. It realizes that international relations in this period are like family relations. What happens to labor in one country has immediate repercussions upon the standards of labor in every other country. Our own pay, hours, and conditions are seriously endangered by lack of labor organizations in Europe, Asia, and Latin America.

—Southern Teamster.



THE WAR is officially over but the sad echoes of past battles are still flowing in. Twenty-one more deaths are reported this month and it is probable that hundreds of Teamsters died in battle whose deaths have never been reported by their local unions.

It is likely that additional casualties will come after our army of occupation enters Japan.

To make our battle roster complete and to give grateful recognition to the men who died to give us peace and security, we will continue to report news of our fighting brothers as long as it is supplied by local secretaries.

Killed in Action

ALBERT EAST, Local No. 310, Tucson, Ariz. In Europe.

FLOYD M. FOREHAND, Local No. 657, San Antonio, Texas. Killed on Ie Shima.

Forehand was president of Local No. 657 when he entered the service. His father, Jeff, is also a member of the local. He had been overseas three years, participating in the invasions of Leyte and Okinawa. He had enough points for discharge at the time of his death.

S. L. (COTTON) GATLIN, Local No. 310, Tucson, Ariz. On Okinawa.

ARTHUR HARRIS, Local No. 653, Brockton, Mass. A member of the 76th Div., Harris was wounded last December and returned to duty. He was killed by a German sniper at Bad Sooden in one of the final battles of the war. His father was a member of Local No. 653 and two brothers are members.

JAMES KILGORE, Local No. 524, Yakima, Wash. No details.

WALTER KOPOLA, Local No. 772, Chicago, Ill. In Germany.

WILLIAM McCAULEY, Local No. 187, Philadelphia, Pa. On Luzon.

SEAMAN 1/C CHRISTOPHER JAMES MEAD, Local No. 174, Seattle, Wash.

Killed in Pacific naval action while serving as naval guard on a Liberty ship. His father-in-law, Carl Brand, is also a member of Local No. 174.

WILLIAM F. MOORE, Local No. 276, Los Angeles, Calif. In naval action.

PFC. FRANK OLYHA, Local No. 205, Pittsburgh, Pa. He was killed in the bloody fighting on Okinawa in which he participated gallantly as a member of the 29th Regiment, 6th Marine Division.

RAY A. PHILLIPS, Local No. 485, Pittsburgh, Pa. Reported missing last September, Phillips is found to have been killed in action.

PVT. JOSEPH SCHIFFHAUER, Local No. 485, Pittsburgh, Pa. He fell in the fighting for Mindanao Island in the Philippines.

PFC. CALVIN SELWAY, Local No. 205, Pittsburgh, Pa. A light machine gunner in the Marines, Selway was killed by the Japs on Iwo Jima.

WINTHROP LESLIE SMITH, Local No. 653, Brockton, Mass. In Normandy.

PFC. JAMES SWAN, Local No. 702, Chicago, Ill. On Okinawa.

S/SGT. JOSEPH M. TOWEY, Local No. 456, Yonkers, N. Y. Reported missing in the Philippines on November 28, 1944, Towey is now found to have been killed in action on that date. He was an engineer gunner with the 17th Reconnaissance Squadron. His plane was shot down while attacking Jap shipping. It was his 88th mission. He had won the Air Medal and Oak Leaf Cluster. He will be awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross posthumously. Towey's father-in-law, Pompei Bernardo, is a member of Local No. 456.

WILLIAM WALDEMAN, Local No. 200, Milwaukee, Wis. No details.

Died in Service

A. ALEYSYN, Local No. 571, Elyria, Ohio. No details.

PFC. LEO BARTH, Local No. 471, Minneapolis, Minn. In a tank destroyer battalion, Barth died of wounds inflicted by the Germans.

EUGENE DOLATOWSKI, Local No. 753, Chicago, Ill. He died of a strep infection in a Marine training camp at San Diego.

PFC. LOUIE YOUNG, Local No. 752, St. Louis, Mo. Young was captured by the Germans in Luxemburg last December and died in a prison camp of malnutrition. The Germans starved him to death.

Missing in Action

MICHAEL MARINELIS, Local No. 653, Brockton, Mass. In Germany.

EDWARD J. MILLER, Local No. 187, Philadelphia, Pa. No details.

Wounded in Action

T/CPL. LEO BENEDETTI, Local No. 226, San Francisco, Calif. No details.

GEORGE BRUCKS, Local No. 753, Chicago, Ill. Wounded in Belgium, he has now recovered and is in the Pacific.

HAROLD CORLAND, Local No. 522, Astoria, Ore. Lost an eye in action in the Pacific. He has since been discharged and is back at work again.

PFC. FRANK CRIST, Local No. 226, San Francisco, Calif. No details.

CARLOS DELAHANTEY, Local No. 310, Tucson, Ariz. A member of the Marine Corps, he was wounded in the invasion of Okinawa.

MILTON FORSLUND, Local No. 544, Minneapolis, Minn. Wounded in Germany and awarded the Silver Star, Forslund has been convalescing at Camp Atterbury, Ind. preparatory to being honorably discharged.

PFC. JAMES HIGGINS, Local No. 226, San Francisco, Calif. No details.

SGT. DON MORTIMORE, Local No. 226, San Francisco, Calif. No details.

PFC. G. J. OLIVEIRA, Local No. 226, San Francisco, Calif. No details.

JOE SKARVALA, Local No. 753, Chicago, Ill. In Germany.

Cited for Meritorious Performance

CAPT. AUGUST BURNIER, Local No. 754, Chicago, Ill. Awarded the Bronze and Silver Stars for bravery beyond the call of duty in going to the aid of several of his men wounded by mortar fire near Aachen, Germany, when his company hit the Siegfried line. He subsequently lost his left leg, as recounted in the January, 1945 issue of this magazine.

SGT. M. CHARLES CLARK, Local No. 232, Des Moines, Ia. Awarded the Bronze Star and promoted from private to sergeant for his gallant conduct in action against the Germans. He is now in the army of occupation in Austria.

GUNNER'S MATE 3/C EARL FRANKLIN COLVIN, Local No. 89, Louisville, Ky. Received a meritorious advancement for conduct in action against the enemy. His prompt action in sighting, identifying and reporting a Jap plane saved his vessel from destruction and resulted in shooting down the Jap. Colvin participated in the Leyte, Luzon and Okinawa invasions.

JOSEPH FEOLA, Local No. 807, New York City. Awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Medal with Oak Leaf Clusters for his bravery in the India-Burma and the Pacific theatres of war. He has been discharged and is back at his old job.

BOATSWAIN'S MATE 2/C JOHN J. FLANAGAN, Local No. 470, Philadelphia, Pa. Officially cited by the navy for heroism aboard the *USS Emmons* off Okinawa. With the vessel engulfed in flames from five suicide plane attacks, Flanagan helped rescue many men trapped in the forward mess hall. He had previously kept his battery firing until it was engulfed by flame. After abandoning ship, Flanagan kept wounded men afloat.

T/SGT. LOWELL A. LINTON, Local No. 399, Hollywood, Calif. Awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for extraordinary heroism in action near Sidi Bou Zid, Tunisia. A member of Company F, 1st Armored Regiment, Linton's tank was hit and set afire. He helped put out the fire and returned to action. He picked up several men whose tanks had been disabled, rescued wounded under close and heavy German fire and kept fighting until his tank was hit three more times and disabled.

That's How Howard Smith Stays in Office

In the matter of "education obtained by its adult population," Virginia ranks below 39 other states.

That's not because Virginia is a poor state. It is amply able to educate its people. The rich and well-to-do are educated, none better. According to this state survey, the

poor—the whites as well as the blacks—are left in ignorance. Who's to blame? In our judgment, the vicious political machine which dominates the state and remains in power largely because of the poll tax and the state's tricky election laws.

—*The Labor News, Worcester, Mass.*

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Labor does not take advantage of the numerous laws which enable labor organizations to form and operate credit unions. Such credit unions would save the laboring man and his family hundreds of thousands of dollars annually in interest payments now being made to the small loan companies all over the land.—*The Progressive Miner.*

Russia Fought Japan, Too

UNCLE JOE STALIN has double-crossed the isolationists again. He went to war against Japan, not against us, as the isolationists tried to provoke him to do.

So to the acute discomfiture of the *Chicago Tribune* and the assorted seditionists who read it, the United States and Russia fought again—on the same side.

The propaganda line of the isolationists has been that Russia was letting us carry the entire burden of the Asiatic war. Of course we were the ones who were attacked. Japan didn't attack Russia and Russia was under no obligation to go to war to help us, particularly when her casualties in the European war were more than those of all the other allies combined.

She was entitled to a rest if she wanted to take it. The isolationists thought she would take it. So they started to whip up a campaign of hatred against Russia on the ground that she was sacrificing American boys.

Now that she has gone to war to save American boys, the isolationists whisper that she wants something in Asia.

Well, if Russia does want something in Asia she didn't need to fight for it. All she needed to do was to wait until we had defeated Japan and then step in and take it.

All the propaganda in the world cannot obscure the fact that Russia kept the promise she made to President Roosevelt, even after the President had died.

She paid off for the invasion of Europe which we and the British staged in Normandy.

Whatever Russia may do in the future, the fact that she was a good ally is written in blood on the steppes of Manchuria.

Maybe the discovery of the atomic bomb has lessened the desire of the isolationists for war with Russia. Maybe it has made them realize that this is one world which can be blown apart if another war breaks the bonds that hold it together.

There is no more isolation, no matter how much anybody bemoans it.

Russia lives in the same world we do. We better get along together or nobody will be living here any more.

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